



Richmond Heights Local Schools

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“It’s a New Day for the
Richmond Heights Way”

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Richmond Heights School Board Hears Results of Study to Replace Property Taxes with an Income Tax

The Richmond Heights Board heard the results of a study presented by David Conley, President of Rockmill Financial Consulting, regarding the opportunity to create a taxation policy to restructure the District’s taxation methodology.

The study reviewed changes in the District’s demographics highlighting the need to alter the type of taxes used by the District for its daily operations. Mr. Conley highlighted several key indicators as signals that a School District Income Tax may be a fairer and more equitable means to tax some residents.

Those indicators included: 1) the aging of residents; 2) the ongoing shift in property taxes paid by businesses to individuals; 3) the large and growing number of renters; 4) the large and growing number of retirees; 5) the growing number of people on fixed incomes; and 6) the future mix of taxpayers coming to the district.

Overall, the number of people that are on fixed incomes like retirement, social security, public assistance, and supplemental support is growing. Today, at least 33% of households has at least one person that meets that criterion. Furthermore, 52% of district residents are over 45 years of age.

“Since property taxes tend to grow over time, unrelated to a person’s income, it has the effect of eroding the income of people surviving on retirement and social security income,” Conley said. “An income tax is based on the amount of income a person earns and therefore only increases if a person’s income increases. In addition, certain income is exempt from school district income taxes such as social security and disability,” Conley said.

According to Conley, “there are more Ohio school districts than ever using income taxes.” As of January 2022, of the 607 districts in the State, 210 have an income tax. That is nearly 35% of all school districts in Ohio.

Conley is proposing the community consider reducing property taxes by 20 mills and replacing them with a 2% income tax to diversify the types of taxes being paid.

The Board is considering holding community meetings to engage residents in discussions about converting some of their existing property taxes into a school district income tax.

The Board of Education will schedule community meetings in the future. If you have any questions, please submit here: [School District Income Tax: Community Engagement](#)

Mission: Prepare individual learners to navigate an evolving global community using 21st century competencies.
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